

Dear Certified Firm:

The State of Washington Department of General Administration and OMWBE need your participation in completing and distributing the survey below to the vendor community. The survey results will be compiled by the Department of General Administration and used to inform recommendations to change state government purchasing policies and processes to encourage and facilitate government purchases from Washington small businesses.

### **Instructions**

Please forward this email with the web link below to the online 2009 Vendor Community Survey Form:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=n1MBwT3EvZE\\_2bta4U5jDr\\_2bQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=n1MBwT3EvZE_2bta4U5jDr_2bQ_3d_3d)

If you are a vendor receiving this email, please click on the web link above to the online 2009 Vendor Community Survey Form.

You may receive this survey invitation from multiple sources. In this event we ask vendors to only complete one survey.

This survey web link will remain open until Friday October 30, 2009.

### **Background**

The 2009 legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 5723 to help Washington small businesses <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2009-10/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Law%202009/5723-S.SL.pdf>.

#### **Substitute Senate Bill 5723 Summary**

- Extends the use of email enabled broadcast technology like Washington Electronic Business Solution (WEBS) <http://www.ga.wa.gov/Business/index.html> beyond formal procurements that require advertising, to informal competitive procurements and certain sole source notices.
- Asks the Department of General Administration (GA) to lead the procurement authority agencies of the state of Washington to form a Procurement Authority Work Team (Work Team) to recommend policies to encourage and facilitate government purchases from Washington small businesses.
- Provides a definition of a Washington small business as follows:

"Small business" means an in-state business, including a sole proprietorship, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity that is owned and operated independently from all other businesses and has either (a) fifty or fewer employees, or (b) a gross revenue of less than seven million dollars annually as reported on its federal income tax return or its return filed with the department of revenue over the previous three consecutive years. As used in this definition, "in-state business" means a business that has its principal office located in Washington and its officers domiciled in Washington.

### **GA Commitment**

GA is committed to its leadership role for improving the procurement policies and processes at the state of Washington. The efforts of the Work Team are consistent with that leadership commitment as is the GA Sponsorship of WEBS and GA's participation in several stakeholders listening sessions about the impact of SSB 5723. The Work Team has prepared this survey of 10 questions to obtain additional input from the vendor community. The survey includes many

comment boxes and we ask for your creativity to consider not only what is but also what could be, in your comment box responses.

Thank you for the generosity of your time to contribute to the goal of creating policies to encourage and facilitate government purchases from Washington small businesses.

If you would like to talk to someone in person or have additional information to share, please contact:

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***Phone 360 902-7449 Services Division***

***of The Department of General Administration***

***This email may become a public record***